

Motor Gasoline Watch

December 1, 1999

Energy Information Administration
Office of Oil & Gas

SUPPLY

- Stocks increased last week due to an increase in production with only slightly higher demand. Total motor gasoline stocks increased 0.9 million barrels to end the week at 191.1 million barrels. Stocks of reformulated gasoline decreased 0.5 million barrels to 37.8 million barrels while stocks of other finished gasoline increased 1.1 million barrels to 112.9 million barrels. Stocks of motor gasoline blending components ended the week at 39.4 million barrels, 0.1 million barrels above the level at the end of the prior week.
- Total motor gasoline stocks at the primary storage level were 19.5 million barrels below the level for the same week last year. Imports of total gasoline averaged 581 thousand barrels per day of which 272 thousand barrels per day were reformulated and 198 thousand barrels per day were blending components.

Gasoline Production by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Thousand Barrels per Day)

	Total Finished Gasoline Week Ending					Reformulated Gasoline Week Ending				
District	11/05/99	11/12/99	11/19/99	11/26/99	11/27/98	11/05/99	11/12/99	11/19/99	11/26/99	11/27/98
East Coast (PADD I)	1,069	1,008	966	1,074	1,102	645	600	579	694	637
Midwest (PADD II)	1,937	1,884	1,937	1,956	1,987	276	289	294	273	253
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	3,542	3,410	3,540	3,502	3,529	719	737	569	740	646
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	319	296	298	259	258	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
West Coast (PADD V)	1,242	1,341	1,374	1,463	1,305	869	958	996	1,022	885
U.S. Total	8,109	7,939	8,115	8,254	8,181	2,509	2,584	2,438	2,729	2,421

Gasoline Stocks by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Million Barrels)

	Total Gasoline Week Ending					Reformulated Gasoline Week Ending				
District	11/05/99	11/12/99	11/19/99	11/26/99	11/26/98	11/05/99	11/12/99	11/19/99	11/26/99	11/26/98
East Coast (PADD I)	56.0	53.9	53.8	52.7	61.0	17.7	17.4	18.1	16.4	20.7
Midwest (PADD II)	49.3	49.3	49.6	49.4	52.8	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.1
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	57.9	56.4	55.3	55.2	62.2	10.3	10.1	8.7	9.3	9.1
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	6.4	6.5	6.3	6.5	6.7	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
West Coast (PADD V)	25.9	25.3	25.2	27.2	27.9	9.7	9.8	10.0	10.7	11.3
U.S. Total	195.5	191.5	190.2	191.1	210.6	39.2	38.9	38.3	37.8	42.2

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PRICES

- With Iraq now prepared to accept another extension to U.N.-sanctioned oil sales, petroleum spot and futures prices dropped back to mid-November levels after reaching nine-year highs. Recent news that Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, and Mexico are willing to compensate for Y2K-related supply losses should stabilize petroleum spot and futures prices during the rollover to the new year. By November 29, 1999, the New York Harbor spot price for conventional regular gasoline dropped 1.65 cents from the previous week to end at 73.00 cents per gallon. Spot prices in California appeared to follow trends in East Coast markets.
- As of November 29, the national average retail price for regular gasoline stood 30 cents per gallon higher than last year. The average retail gasoline price rose 0.5 cent last week to 127.4 cents per gallon, the highest price since May 1996. The average retail price for California grade gasoline went up almost another penny during the same period.

Regular Gasoline Spot Prices by City (Cents per Gallon)

	Conventional Gasoline					Reformulated Gasoline					
City	11/08/99	11/15/99	11/22/99	11/29/99	11/30/98	11/08/99	11/15/99	11/22/99	11/29/99	11/30/98	
New York	65.15	70.35	74.65	73.00	30.30	65.95	69.65	73.38	71.10	32.68	
Chicago	67.55	71.53	70.90	69.38	27.41	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Houston	61.55	65.65	72.78	69.30	28.32	62.35	70.15	70.96	68.78	31.14	
Los Angeles	77.50	75.50	74.00	73.25	37.50	80.00	78.00	76.50	75.75	40.50	

Source: Reuters Information Services.

Regular Gasoline Retail Prices by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Cents per Gallon, Including Taxes)

	Conventional Gasoline						Reformulated Gasoline				
District	11/08/99	11/15/99	11/22/99	11/29/99	11/30/98	11/08/99	11/15/99	11/22/99	11/29/99	11/30/98	
East Coast (PADD I)	119.3	120.4	123.0	124.8	94.1	128.5	128.8	129.6	131.4	101.1	
Midwest (PADD II)	120.7	124.5	126.5	125.0	92.4	123.4	126.6	128.3	129.5	98.4	
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	119.0	120.2	121.5	124.0	91.7	117.2	117.2	119.3	120.3	93.9	
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	133.1	132.9	132.1	132.0	108.4	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
West Coast (PADD V)	133.9	133.7	134.3	134.8	110.1	132.8	134.3	136.2	137.0	115.0	
U.S. Average	121.5	123.7	125.5	125.8	94.7	127.1	128.4	129.8	131.2	103.5	

Source: Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-878, Motor Gasoline Price Survey.

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